Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 NEA-10 IO-13 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 L-03 H-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-05 CEA-01 PA-01 PRS-01 OES-07 AGRE-00 HA-05 /120 W

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USADB

PASS TREASURY FOR BRADFORD

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EAID, EFIN, SHUM

SUBJECT: ADB LOANS AND TA OPERATIONS IN FIRST QUARTER OF 1978

1. ADB STAFF HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO PROVIDE TENTATIVE SCHEDULE AS YET OF LOAN AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS EXPECTED TO COME BEFORE BOARD OF DIRECTORS DURING FIRST QUARTER OF 1978. USADB UNDERSTANDS THAT THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT A \$26.0 MILLION LOAN FOR THE SECOND FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT PROJECT FOR BURMA MIGHT BE CONSIDERED IN FEBRUARY, DEPENDING ON AVAILABILITY OF CONCESSIONAL FUNDS.

2. MAIN OBJECTIVES OF PROJECT ARE TO: (A) IMPROVE CONDITIONS OF ARTISANAL FISHERMEN OPERATING IN COASTAL WATERS OF TENASSERIM COAST; (B) ACCELERATE PACE OF FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT; (C) INTRODUCE IMPROVED AQUACULTURE TECHNIQUES TO INCREASE INALDN AND BRACKISH WATER FISH PRODUCTION MAINLY FOR DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION; (D) ENSURE EFFICIENT UTILIZATION, DISTRIBUTION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND MARKETING OF FISH LANDINGS IN INTEREST OF BOTH PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS; (E) MEET GROWING LOCAL DEMAND FOR FISH EXPECIALLY IN PROTEIN DEFICIENT AREAS IN UPPER BURMA BY PROCESSING THROUGH APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY; AND (F) INCREASE FOREX EARNINGS OF COUNTRY. FOR MARINE FISHERIES, PROJECT LOAN WILL FINANCE GILL NETTERS, TRAWLERS, PURSE SEINERS AND MULTI-PURPOSE BOATS FOR

OPERATIONS IN COASTAL AND OFFSHORE WATERS. ONSHORE FACILITIES WILL BE PROVIDED IN RANGOON AND AT FIVE SMALLER FACILITIES ALONG TENASSERIM COAST COMPRISING REFRIGERATION, PROCESSING AND TRANSPORT FACILITIES. FOR INLAND FISHERIES, THERE IS PROVISION OF EQUIPMENT FOR HATCHERY, FISHPOND CONSTRUCTION, A SMALL ICE PLANT AND TRANSPORT FACILITIES.

3. DIRECT BENEFICIARIES UNDER PROJECT ARE ESTIMATED AT 5,883 PERSONNEL INCLUDING SKILLED AND UNSKILLED WORKERS TO BE EMPLOYED. IN ADDITION, MANPOWER REQUIREMENTS FOR PROJECT INVOLVE AN INCREASE IN STAFF OF EXECUTING AGENCY OF APPROXIMATELY 2,000 SKILLED AND UNSKILLED WORKERS, AN INCREASE OF 169 PERCENT OVER PRESENT LEVEL. APART FROM ADDITIONAL DIRECT EMPLOYEMNT, SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF WORKERS WILL BE INVOLVED IN CONSTRUCTION OF FISHING VESSELS BY BOATBUILDING YARDS AND ONSHORE FACILITY COMPLEXES BY LOCAL CONTRACTOR. SUPPLY UNDER PROJECT OF OVER 20,000 METRIC TONS OF PROCESSED FISH FOR DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION WILL ALSO MAKE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO NUTRITIONAL REQUIREMENTS OF BURMESE PEOPLE.

4. OUT OF TOTAL DIRECT EMPLOYMENT BY PROJECT, ABOUT 70 PERCENT ARE INVOLVED IN ARTISANAL FISHERIES SECTOR. INCOME OF THOSE ARTISANAL FISHERMEN WILL BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SUBSTANTIALLY IMPROVED. IT IS ESTIMATED THAT CURRENT LEVEL OF INCOMES WILL BE INCREASED BY ABOUT 50 PERCENT.

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